

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 2828 SHERIDAN ROAD, ZION, ILLINOIS

Mayor Hill called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners DeTienne, Frierson, McDowell, McKinney and Mayor Hill. A quorum was present.

Also present: Chief of Police Steve Dumyahn, Fire/Rescue Chief John Lewis, Public Works Director Ron Colangelo, Building/Zoning Director Richard Ianson and City Attorney Scott Puma. Accounts/Finance Director David Knabel was absent.

Mayor Hill led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Frierson to accept the City Council meeting agenda as presented. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Brenda Harris and Pauline Brash, Zion, stated they are residents of the Countrywood Hills subdivision. Ms. Brash stated an accident took place on May 29th causing the sign of the entryway to be torn down. She stated the debris is still laying there and is an eyesore. She asked the Council if the debris could get cleaned up. She stated they do not have a homeowners association and do not know who to turn to. Ms. Harris asked the Council who would be responsible for getting the sign replaced. Director Colangelo stated currently they are taking pictures and getting quotes to have it repaired. He stated mostly likely the City will have to do the work upfront and then submit a claim to the insurance of the gentleman who damaged the sign and get reimbursed. He stated most subdivisions have homeowners associations that take care of their entryway signs but unfortunately for Countrywood Hills that does not exist. He stated initially the sign was maintained by the builder for years until after the final lots were sold. He stated the builder was only obligated to maintain things for two years after that. He stated the City will have the debris and weeds removed.

Clyde McLemore, Zion, read a quote by the late Mohamid Ali and stated he would like to pay tribute to him. He stated he was heartbroken when his dog ran away last week but thankfully Randy Knorr called him and brought his dog home to him. He stated he had Zion resident Brenda Geater with him and she wanted to approach the Council. Ms. Geater stated she has been getting threatening phone calls from a woman from the City. She stated the caller told her she was on the boot/tow list. She stated she was told that she had over \$800 in fines due to outstanding tickets. She stated she does not remember getting any tickets. She stated she was told in order to get her name off the boot/tow list she would have to come up with \$360.00. She stated she does not have the money. She stated she is afraid to come to Zion fearing her car will get booted. Chief Dumyahn stated most likely it was the municipal collection agency that called Ms. Geater. He stated the collection agency makes calls to individuals who have outstanding parking tickets. Ms. Geater stated she has not received anything in the mail informing her of any tickets.

Mayor Hill asked Ms. Geater to give Chief Dumyahn her phone number so he could help find out where the tickets came from and possibly contact the collection agency. Chief Dumyahn stated the collection agency notifies people of outstanding debts and the police do the booting.

Janet Jones, Zion, stated there is a sink hole in the street at 23rd Street and Ezekiel that is in complete disrepair. She stated it is causing black top and macadam to be thrown into her yard. She stated she lives across the street from a school and worries that the debris will be thrown into the playground while the kids are playing. She asked the Council what the agenda is for the City's infrastructure. Director Colangelo stated MFT funds are now being dispersed from what was owed last year. He stated the biggest issue is the debt service bonds that were taken out in the early 2000's. He stated those bonds will not expire for another two years. He stated once they are paid off, it will free up about \$400,000 a year. He stated there are miles and miles of roads that are in need of repair and there is just not enough funding in place right now. He stated for now, they are doing spot repairing. He stated it is very difficult to address the subject of the roads as he understands everyone's concerns. He stated the cost to repair the roads is an enormous amount of money. He stated the problem is that the City still has to adequately fund everything else in the City. He stated there are some road items on the agenda for this meeting. He stated the City receives federal grants but the road has to be eligible for those federal grants. He stated in the past the City has gotten Community Development Block Grants, but those grants are earmarked for certain neighborhoods. He stated the federal government pays 80% of the costs of the projects. He stated the City is aware the roads are in bad shape and if they had the money the roads would be done. He stated at one point it was estimated that the cost to maintain the roads was \$2.7 million a year. He stated most communities use referendums to help with their roads. He stated considering the high tax rate in Zion that is not likely here. Mayor Hill stated everyone recognizes that the streets are in bad shape and Public Works is doing the best they can with the amount of resources the Council provides them. He stated the budgets are not in good shape. He stated the City has spent money on things that didn't work out and we are still paying for it now and will continue to pay for the next couple of years. He stated he would like to think that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. He stated when the hospital comes online with the increased tax revenue and some of the bond issues are paid off, hopefully there will be money to address the roads. He stated the plan right now is to patch and fill as much as they can for the next two years. He stated they will prioritize the roads based on how much traffic they get and the condition they are in and then start to fix them. He apologized for the current state of the City, but stated there is just no money to do things right now. He stated the City is trying to dig out of a hole and once they do, the streets and infrastructure will be one of the first things that will be addressed. Director Colangelo stated a question that often comes up with City road projects is "Why is my road not being done?" He stated people have to understand a lot of the projects are funded and some of these are "conditions worse". He stated if the federal government is willing to pay 80% of the costs to fix the roads the City has to take what limited resources it has and take advantage of that. Mayor Hill asked what the requirements are for a grant. Director Colangelo stated it must be a Federal Aid Urban route (FAU). This is a route that connects major transportation routes such as a county or state highway. He stated there are quite a few of these in the City. He stated that is the reason why Gabriel Avenue was done last year. He stated the City received over \$800,000 for that project. Mayor Hill stated the City is putting their money into projects where they can receive the matching grants. Commissioner Frierson asked Director Colangelo if there was a process in place to check when things are a major safety concern. Director Colangelo stated yes, they can do overlaying or often times hot mix that is left over from on a previous project can be sent to places that need emergency patching.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- (a) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** a Regular Meeting held on May 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
- (b) **BILLS:** Vouchers 123650 through 123763 drawn on First Merit Bank, Total: \$457,300.31

Approved by omnibus vote as follows: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION GRANT/ENGINEERING SERVICES

A memo (16-DOC-50) was received from Director Colangelo requesting that the Council award the Phase I and Phase II engineering services for the section between Highland Drive and 9th Street, to Christopher Burke Engineering Ltd of Rosemont Illinois, in the amount of \$23,100 for the Surface Transportation Grant (STP Grant). He stated that the City has submitted a revised STP Grant application for Lorelei Drive. He stated in March of this year the Council approved engineering for the portion of Lorelei Drive between Illinois Route 173 and Highland Drive. He stated due to the satisfactory core samples and bids received on other projects he feels the Lorelei Drive project can be completed within one year instead of the two year schedule as previously planned. He stated that this program distributes federal funding in the form of 80/20 grants for Phase II construction engineering and actual construction costs. He stated that the estimated amount of the grant to be awarded to the City is now approximately \$572,000 (revised from \$440,000). Director Colangelo stated to expedite the project and move up on the schedule and be project ready, the goal is to release the entire project for bidding in late 2016 or early 2017 and to complete construction in the summer of 2017. He stated that funding for these engineering services will come from the Street and Bridge Fund. Commissioner Frierson asked Director Colangelo what the duration of the project would be. Director Colangelo stated it would be approximately a month.

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to approve the contract for engineering services with Christopher Burke Engineering Ltd, Rosemont, Illinois in the amount of \$23,100 for the Surface Transportation Grant (STP Grant) for Lorelei Drive improvements between Highland Drive and 9th Street. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

TABULATION OF BIDS/2016 STREET PROGRAM

A Tabulation of Bids (15-DOC-51) was received from Director Colangelo regarding the 2016 Street Program. He stated that the roads included in the 2016 project are the 2700, 2800 and 2900 blocks of East Bethel Boulevard and 26th Street between Gideon and Galilee Avenues. He stated that funding for the project will come from the Street & Bridge Fund. Director Colangelo recommended awarding the project to the lowest responsible bidder, Peter Baker and Sons of Libertyville, Illinois for the base and alternate bids in the amount of \$192,073.75.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McKinney to award the contract for the 2016 Street Program project to Peter Baker and Sons of Libertyville, Illinois for the base and alternate bids in the amount of \$192,073.75. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

TABULATION OF BIDS/2016 SURFACE REMOVAL & REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

A Tabulation of Bids (16-DOC-52) was received from Director Colangelo regarding the 2016 Surface Removal and Replacement Program. Director Colangelo recommended awarding the project to the lowest responsible bidder, Payne and Dolan Inc. of Antioch, Illinois in the amount of \$72,367.56. He stated that funding for this project is from the MFT Fund. Commissioner Frierson stated specific streets have not been identified and asked Director Colangelo how this project will work. Director Colangelo stated most of the funds will be earmarked for 29th Street west of Sheridan Road as you leave City Hall. He stated at the last meeting the Council authorized an MFT resolution for up to \$100,000. He stated there is wiggle room with the remaining \$28,000 in funds to use for another project providing the 29th Street project stays within the bid amount of \$72,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McKinney to award the contract to Payne and Dolan of Antioch, Illinois in the amount of \$72,367.66 for the 2016 Surface Removal and Replacement Program. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTARY

Chief Dumyahn stated on May 13, 2016 the Zion Police Department initiated a planned multi-agency operation dubbed "Operation Safe Summer" in the City of Zion. The operation ran from Friday, May 13th through Tuesday May 31st. He stated the operation was in response to a significant amount of gun incidents within the past two years in Zion. The operation involved several components that included:

- City-wide warrant sweep involving the Lake County Sheriff's Office Warrant Division and members of the Zion Police Department.
- Directed/proactive patrol by Zion Police Officer Tactical Units in areas identified to have a greater frequency of gun crimes/offenses.
- Zion Police Department Drug/Gang Unit directed activities in cooperation with our Federal partners.
- Lake County Gang Task Force Focusing on areas of gun violence
- Illinois State Police (ISP) District 2- Traffic & ISP District- 15 CRIMINAL PATROL
- Lake County MEG, Focusing on areas of Drug & Gang Crimes
- City-wide Sex Offender Compliance Checks conducted by Zion Police Officers.

He stated the objectives of Operation Safe Summer were to locate and arrest dangerous/violent individuals with outstanding warrants, focus police resources on known areas of gun violence and on specific individuals with a known involvement in drug/gun violence, focus police resources in areas of recent gang related activity and graffiti, and complete Sex Offender Compliance checks for all registered sex offenders in the City of Zion. The goal of Operation Safe Summer was to create a safer environment for citizens within the City of Zion as well as increasing safety for

officers working the streets this summer. He stated it was not merely a “Stat” driven initiative. He stated the objective with this operation is to make a realistic impact by making arrests, recovering illegal firearms and saturating violent crime areas. He stated the intent was to work proactively within the areas where violent crime occurs in order to deter violent crime this summer while creating a positive presence within the community.

Operation Safe Summer was very successful with:

- 5 Guns recovered
- 1 Search warrant was served for narcotics and guns
- 17 Criminal arrests were made in connection with this operation
- 20 Felony charges resulted from this operation
- 24 Criminal warrants were served
- DRUGS SEIZED:
 - Over 100 grams of Cannabis
 - 16.06g Cocaine
 - 11.28g Heroin
 - 98 pills (prescription medications, controlled substances regulated by state statute)
- 12 Traffic Arrest were made for driving while License suspended or Revoked
- 63 Sex Offender Compliance checks were completed with 8 offenders found to be Non-Compliant with several felony warrants obtained for non-compliant offenders.

Chief Dumyahn stated he would personally like to thank all the agencies that assisted in the operation to include the Illinois State Police, the Lake County Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG) and particularly the Lake County Sheriff’s Office Warrants Division and the Lake County Gang Unit. Without their participation the operation would not have been as successful. He stated they plan on running operations like this throughout the summer. He stated they will be focusing on areas with the highest rates of gun violence and crime. He stated the operation has been very successful with the help of other agencies.

Commissioner Frierson praised Chief Dumyahn and the Zion Police Department for their great work He stated he has received several calls from people asking how they can report drug activity anonymously. Chief Dumyahn stated there is a recorded line at the Police Department people can call and leave information anonymously. He stated the line does not have caller id and will not track the caller. He stated they can also call Crime Stoppers who will forward information to the Zion Police. He stated the more information people can give the more the police can do. Commissioner Frierson asked Chief Dumyahn what the minimum information might be that could help the police. Chief Dumyahn stated things like license plate numbers, addresses, or names are helpful. Commissioner Frierson stated he read in the paper arrests were made for jay-walking. Chief Dumyahn stated that information is inaccurate. He stated the only arrests made were for gun and drug crimes. He stated the police department did not receive one call regarding the police activity. He stated the police explained to citizens why they were in the neighborhoods and what the goals were. Commissioner McDowell also thanked Chief Dumyahn as well as Lieutenant Velardi and Lieutenant Bartlett. He stated he observed them as well as the Chief out on the streets at all hours to maintain the integrity of the operation. Mayor Hill stated it was a job well done and thanked Chief Dumyahn and Commissioner McDowell for getting a handle on the activity and hopes to continue the operation throughout the summer.

Commissioner McKinney stated he would like to make a few comments for the Building Department. He stated when he moved back to Zion three years ago he was surprised how the City looked overall. He stated it looked a lot different than he remembered growing up. He stated now as he drives through the street and neighborhoods he sees tremendous changes. He stated he can see that people are taking care of their properties. He stated he sees the results of the

programs the City has put in place. He stated most important residents are helping by calling the City with issues that arise. He stated Director Colangelo has done a great job with the chipping program during the spring months. He stated everything takes time and changes will not happen overnight. He stated the City is starting to resemble the place he grew up in. He stated we must focus on the positive and not the negative. He stated everyone's help is needed to move the City forward. Mayor Hill stated the City looks better than it has in a long time, but there is still a long way to go.

Commissioner DeTienne praised Mayor Hill and the Council for their forward movement attitude since they have been in office. He stated he sees the changes in the City and believes it is due to his attitude as a leader. He stated politicians come and go but it is the City Department Heads that really see that the work gets done and make the Council look good. He stated they are the ones that keep the City moving forward and he is proud to be a part of it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 16, 17		Nostalgia Days
June 21	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting Zion City Council Meeting
July 4		City Offices Closed for the Holiday
July 5	7:00 p.m.	Zion City Council Meeting

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Frierson, seconded by Commissioner McDowell that the Council recess to Closed Session at 7:49 p.m., pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 "Open Meetings", for the discussion of pending litigation. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner McKinney, seconded by Commissioner McDowell to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 8:35 p.m. with all members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Frierson, aye; McDowell, aye; McKinney, aye; and Mayor Hill, aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner McKinney, seconded by Commissioner Frierson and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 8:36 p.m. Motion carried.

Deputy City Clerk